

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
Minutes of August 7, 2020

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Ross McLeod called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm. Selectmen Bruce Breton, Roger Hohenberger, Heath Partington, and Jennifer Simmons were present via audio conference, as were School Board members Shannon Ulrey, Robert Breton, Cynthia Finn, and Dennis Senibaldi.

Also present on the call were Town Administrator David Sullivan along with Fire Chief Thomas McPherson, Assistant Chief Steve Brady, Police Captain Mike Caron, and HR Director Paula Carmichael.

The Board held a joint Emergency meeting with the School Board to discuss a possible Corona Virus outbreak in Town. The reason for the Emergency Meeting was due to the Corona Virus matter and delaying action on the Board's parts was not reasonable given the potential impact delay may cause.

Chief McPherson communicated he had been notified by the Department of Health and Human Services and the Homeland Security Management of a community outbreak of COVID-19. He explained that it is large enough that the DHHS will be conducting community- based testing next week.

Chief McPherson stated that he was instructed by the DHHS that they would be the lead in getting out a press release. Being a Friday afternoon, he, along with Dave Sullivan, felt it important to let the Board of Selectmen and School Board know before the press release so they were aware should they receive any questions. The press release was expected prior to this meeting however, it had not yet been released. The Town Officials are monitoring and will send out a press release from the Town once the State releases the information.

It was recommended that the press release from the Town be a joint statement from the Board of Selectmen and School Board. The School Board agreed.

Mr. Sullivan recommended that effective immediately the Town buildings be closed to the public until further notice.

Mr. Breton recommended closing the Town Offices to the public on Monday, and to have further discussions during Monday night's Board of Selectmen meeting.

Ms. Simmons made a motion and Mr. Breton seconded to close the Town Buildings effective immediately through close of Business on Monday, August 10, 2020, with further discussion at the Monday's Board meeting. Roll call Vote – Mr. Breton, Ms. Simmons, and Mr. McLeod voted Yes; Mr. Hohenberger and Mr. Partington voted No. Motion passed 3-2.

Mr. Sullivan asked the Board what about the beach and parks. The Board of Selectmen did not feel it necessary to close the Town beaches or Town parks at this time.

Calls from Press will be directed to the Fire Chief as the Emergency Management.

Meeting ended at 5:54pm.